

PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q76863

Toshinobu OGATSU

Appln. No.: Unknown

Confirmation No.: Unknown

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: October 29, 2003

Examiner: Unknown

For: WAFER SUPPORT DEVICE AND A WAFER SUPPORT METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

1. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 9-22927, published January 21, 1997.
2. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2002-100666, published April 5, 2002.
3. Japanese Patent No. 3267938, published January 11, 2002.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

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filings a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant states that above references are discussed within the specification beginning at page 1, lines 10 and 22, page 2, line 2.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Frank Osha

J. Frank Osha
Registration No. 24,625

SUGHRIE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

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<p>Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO</p> <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	Unknown
				Confirmation Number	Unknown
				Filing Date	October 29, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Toshinobu OGATSU
				Art Unit	Unknown
				Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	Q76863

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.